THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Disciplines in which training is being imparted by the Film and Television Institute, Pune are as below:

Under Three Year Diploma Course in Film & Television:
(a) Direction (Films & Television)
(b) Cinematography (Films & Television)
(c) Editing (Films & Television)
(d) audiography (Films & Television)

Under One Year Certificate Course in Television:
(a) Direction
(b) Electronic Cinematography
(c) Video Editing
(d) Audiography & TV Engineering

(b) The number of students getting training from this Institute is 159 and total number of regular staff engaged therein is 244.

(c) There are Students' Hostels for both boys and girls with the capacity to accommodate all the students admitted for the courses. At present 148 students are availing this facility.

(d) The annual expenditure incurred by the Government on the Institute during the last three years is:

S.No.	Year	Expenditure Plan	Under Non-Plan	Total
1.	2000-01	365.00	561.41	926.41
2.	2001-02	125.00	572.24	697.24
3.	2002-03	30.00	564.63	594.63

(e) Governing Council of FTII, Pune, in its 99th meeting has taken a decision, in principle, to start a course in Acting in the Institute. In order to ensure that all the arrangements are in place, the course has been deferred to next year.

Specifications for set top boxes

1349. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Set Top Boxes (STB) provided by the ASC Enterprises Limited to access its Ku Band DTH services is not inter-operable and does not comply with the specifications laid down by the Bureau of Indian Standards; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The matter is under examination in this Ministry.

Quality of Akashwani and DD Programmes

†1350. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any outline to improve the quality of the Akashwani and Doordarshan Programmes; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati has informed that in order to fulfill the mandate of the Public Service Broadcaster to infrom, educated and entertain the public. Prasar Baharti has been constantly pursuing for excellence both in terms of content and quality. Doordarshan has taken several steps to improve the quality of its programmes. A Creative Advisory Committee (CAC) comprising experts from various fields of Arts, Culture and Journalism etc. has been constituted in the Directorate to review the creative content of all Doordarshan channels. Doordarshan constantly reviews the quality of serials/programmes telecast on its various channels and makes efforts to further improve the contents and technical quality/transmission. The guidelines for commissioned and sponsored programmes have been revised. The studios and equipment are continuously being modernized to improve technical quality of programmes.

AIR has, *inter-alia*,introduced phone-in-programme, radio-on-demand service, news-on-phone service, internet broadcasting,expansion of FM transmission network, etc. to provide superior quality broadcasting.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.